



SF Environment

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January 26, 2006

Eileen Wenger Tutt, Special Advisor to the Secretary
California Environmental Protection Agency
1001 I Street, P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812-2815

Re: Comments on the Climate Action Team Report to the Governor and Legislature

Dear Climate Action Team,

We appreciate this opportunity to comment on the Climate Action Team's report. At the January 23rd meeting of the Climate Action Team representatives of City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) and other local governments drew attention to the fact that local governments are not discussed in the draft recommendations of the CAT. We were pleased to hear that this oversight will be corrected. The impacts of climate change present serious threats to local governments and with over 90% of Californians living in urban areas, local governments must be involved in the State's strategy.

We encourage the Climate Action Team to:

- Strongly emphasize the significance of municipal efforts in their report to the Governor and Legislature.
- Convene a workshop to identify local governments that are already taking action on climate change, develop new state policies that enhance local governments ability to meet their ghg reduction targets, and identify existing policies that inhibit local ability to implement climate protection programs.
- Provide guidance and adequate resources to assist local governments in their work towards meeting their own - and simultaneously the State's - targets.

In 2002 CCSF committed to an aggressive ghg reduction target of 20% below 1990 levels by 2012 and subsequently developed the Climate Action Plan of San Francisco (see: www.sfenvironment.com/aboutus/energy/cap.htm). Our strategy to meet the target includes: development of renewable energy projects and green power purchasing, increased energy efficiency in residential, commercial and municipal buildings, green building certification for municipal buildings, increased use of public transit, biking and walking as an alternative to driving, increased use of alternative fuel vehicles and improved fleet efficiency, and the establishment of a zero waste goal. All of these measures complement recommendations in the Climate Action Team's report. Local climate protection efforts directly contribute to the State targets and in many cases, for instance zero waste goals, local governments can implement greenhouse gas reductions in ways that the State cannot.

We look forward to working with the Climate Action Team to coordinate State and local efforts and thank the Team for producing a forward thinking report in a timeframe that reflects the urgency with which climate change must be addressed.

Sincerely,

Jared Blumenfeld
Director

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